

## TRAINING MODULE 9

### STUDY PLAN

# Burial Benefits

#### Objective:

To learn what benefits are available for the funeral, transportation, and interment of a deceased veteran, and what the requirements are for such benefits. To learn the requirements for burial in a National Cemetery and related honors.

#### References:

Title 38, U.S. Code, Chapters 23 and 24.

38 Code of Federal Regulations Part 1, § 1.10; Part 3, §§ 3.1600–3.1612; Part 38.

Adjudication Manual M21-1, Part III, Chapter 13.

Adjudication Manual M21-1MR (Manual Rewrite), Part 7.

VA Pamphlet 80-06-01, *Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents*

#### Instructions:

Study the assigned reference materials to learn how to assist a veteran's survivors to apply for burial and interment allowance, for burial in a National Cemetery, and for the other honors due a veteran at time of death.

#### Summary:

##### 1. Burial, Plot, and Transportation Allowance:

THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA) WILL PAY A BURIAL ALLOWANCE ON behalf of any deceased veteran who dies as the result of a service-related disability. If the veteran's death is not related to service or a service-connected disability, VA will pay a lesser amount for a veteran who meets any of the following requirements:

- The veteran was in receipt of compensation or pension, or would have been entitled to receive compensation or pension but for receipt of military retired pay; or
- At the time of death, the veteran had a claim pending for compensation or pension which would have entitled him or her to payment but for his or her death; or
- The veteran served during a wartime period and the body is unclaimed; or
- The veteran died while hospitalized by VA or while receiving care at a non-VA facility under VA contract; or
- The veteran died while traveling under VA authorization and expense to or from a specified place for examination, treatment, or care; or
- The veteran died while a patient at an approved state nursing home.

## **Burial Benefits**

If eligibility is based on a claim pending at the time of death, then the same rule applies as for claims for accrued benefits based on a claim pending at the time of death, namely that all of the evidence necessary for a favorable decision must have been in file (as defined) on the date of the veteran's death. There is also one other requirement: entitlement to the pending benefit must be from a month earlier than the month of death—otherwise, the veteran would not be “entitled to receive” compensation or pension for the month of death.

If the death is not service-connected, veterans who first entered service after September 1980 (enlisted) or October 1981 (officers) are subject to the minimum active duty service requirement.

A plot or interment allowance may also be payable for a veteran whose death is not service-connected and who:

- Served during a wartime period and the body is unclaimed; or
- Was in receipt of compensation or pension; or
- Would have been entitled to receive compensation or pension but for receipt of military retired pay; or
- Was discharged from service because of a disability incurred or aggravated in line of duty (whether or not service connection was ever established by VA for that condition); or
- Was properly hospitalized by VA or at VA expense;

and who is not buried in a National Cemetery.

If the veteran died on or after September 11, 2001 and the death is service-connected, the burial allowance payable is the total cost of the funeral, burial and transportation or \$2,000, whichever is less. If the death occurred before September 11, 2001, the service-connected burial allowance is \$1,500. In either case, if the veteran is buried in a National Cemetery an additional separate amount is payable for the cost of transporting the veteran's body from the place of death to the nearest National Cemetery having space.

If the death is not service-connected, the basic burial allowance is \$300. If the veteran meets the requirements for the plot or interment allowance and the death occurred on or after December 1, 2001, the plot allowance is \$300. If the veteran died before December 1, 2001, the plot allowance is \$150.

When the death is not service-connected, under certain conditions VA will also pay for the costs of transporting the veteran's body from the place of death to the place of burial or interment. If the veteran is to be buried in a National Cemetery and either was in receipt of compensation, or would have been entitled to receive compensation but for receipt of military retired pay or disability pension (as a greater benefit), the cost of transporting the veteran's body to the nearest National Cemetery having space is payable. [38 CFR § 3.1600(g)] If the veteran dies while hospitalized by VA or at VA expense, or dies while traveling under VA authorization, or dies in an approved state nursing home, the cost of transporting the veteran's body from the place of death to the place of burial or interment may also be paid.

If a person who is not a veteran dies while properly hospitalized by VA, the nonservice-connected burial allowance plus the cost of transporting the body from the place of death to the place of burial or interment is payable. The plot allowance is not payable, however.

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There is no time limit for filing a service-connected burial claim; or for claiming the allowance for transporting a veteran's body from a VA (or VA-contracted) hospital to the place of burial or interment; or for claiming the allowance for transporting the veteran's body to a National Cemetery for burial. For deaths which are not service-connected, the time limit for submitting a claim for the burial and/or plot allowance is two years after the date of final permanent burial or interment. If the burial allowance could not be paid at the time of the veteran's death because of the character of the veteran's discharge and the discharge is subsequently corrected or upgraded so that benefits would now be payable, the claim for burial allowance must be filed within two years from the date of correction of the veteran's discharge.

The order of precedence of claimant(s) for the burial, plot and transportation allowances is:

1. The funeral director, if any portion of the funeral bill is unpaid;
2. The person or entity from whom the plot was purchased or who provided interment services (if other than the funeral director), if any portion of the bill for such is unpaid;
3. The person whose personal funds were used to pay the expenses of the funeral, transportation, and burial; or
4. The administrator or executor of the veteran's estate or the estate of the person who paid the expenses of the veteran's burial or provided such services.

The application and evidentiary requirements for burial allowance are a completed VA Form 21-530, *Application for Burial Benefits*, signed by the proper claimant and by the person who authorized the services (if not the same person); a statement of account on the billhead (invoice) of the funeral director or cemetery owner, showing the deceased veteran's name, the plot or interment costs, the nature and costs of the services rendered, and the remaining unpaid balance (if any); receipted bills showing by whom payment was made and by whom it was received on behalf of the funeral director and/or cemetery owner; a death certificate or other acceptable proof of death; and proof of the veteran's service, if not already of record. If the veteran was indigent or the body is unclaimed, there must also be a written certification, signed by a responsible official (usually the Public Guardian/Public Administrator) of the state or subdivision where the body is held, that the veteran had no next of kin or other person to claim the body and that the veteran's estate does not have sufficient funds to cover the expenses of funeral and burial. (See the sample application on pages 9-6 and 9-7.)

### 2. National Cemeteries:

**T**HE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HAS ADMINISTERED THE NATIONAL CEMETERY system (now called the National Cemetery Administration) since 1973. Persons eligible for burial in a National Cemetery include service members who die on active duty and veterans who meet applicable active duty requirements (veterans who first entered service after September 1980 [enlisted] or October 1981 [officers] are subject to the minimum active duty service provision), and who were discharged under honorable conditions.

Other persons eligible for burial in a National Cemetery include Reservists who are entitled to retired pay based on 20 or more years of creditable service with a Reserve component; Reservists and members of the National Guard who die as the result of disease or injury incurred or aggravated in line of duty during active duty for training or inactive duty training, or who die while

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being treated for such a disease or injury, or who die while traveling to or from authorized training; and commissioned officers of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Public Health Service. World War II Merchant Mariners and U.S. citizens who served honorably in the armed forces of an Allied country during a wartime period are also eligible for burial in a National Cemetery, as well as any other persons or classes of persons designated by either the Secretary of Veterans Affairs or the Secretary of the Air Force.

Finally, the spouse or surviving spouse of an eligible person may be buried in a National Cemetery, even if the eligible person is not buried or memorialized in the National Cemetery. The dependent minor children, the unmarried adult children (up to age 23) who are attending an approved school, and the unmarried adult disabled (helpless) children of an eligible person are also eligible for burial in a National Cemetery. Beginning December 16, 2003, remarriage no longer disqualifies a surviving spouse from eligibility for burial in a National Cemetery (previously, the surviving spouse's eligibility could be restored if the remarriage was subsequently terminated by death or divorce).

Persons convicted of a capital crime under either federal or state laws may not be buried or memorialized in a National Cemetery. Additionally, for deaths which occur on or after December 6, 2002, such persons also may not be furnished an American flag to drape the veteran's coffin, a Presidential Memorial Certificate, or a memorial headstone or marker for the veteran's grave.

Burial in a National Cemetery includes the gravesite, a headstone or marker, opening and closing of the grave, and perpetual care. Gravesites in a National Cemetery cannot be reserved, although arrangements that were made before VA assumed jurisdiction of the National Cemetery system will continue to be honored. Funeral directors or others making burial arrangements must apply at the time of the eligible person's death. Depending on the cemetery, National Cemeteries may have columbaria or special gravesite sections for cremated remains. Burial services are not conducted on weekends except under the most unusual circumstances.

National Cemeteries do not provide military honors, but will assist with referrals to military units or volunteer groups. If requested by the veteran's family, the Department of Defense will provide a funeral honor guard detail of not less than two members, at least one of whom will be from the veteran's branch of service. The honors ceremony will include, at a minimum, the folding and presentation of the American flag to the family plus the playing of "Taps," either by a bugler or a recording. Military funeral honors are not restricted to services in National Cemeteries.

VA will provide a headstone or grave marker for veterans buried anywhere in the world, and for eligible dependents of veterans buried in National Cemeteries, state veterans' cemeteries, or military post cemeteries (but not private cemeteries). The style and type of marker furnished will depend on the rules of the particular cemetery. Niche markers are also available for identifying cremated remains in a columbarium. The headstone or marker will contain the name of the deceased, the years of birth and death, and (for the veteran) the branch of service. Optionally, the headstone or marker may also be inscribed with the deceased veteran's military grade, rank or rate, complete dates of birth and death, an appropriate religious emblem, and a listing of any awards for valor.

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If the burial is in a National Cemetery, a state veterans' cemetery, or a military post cemetery, the headstone or marker is ordered through the cemetery, which will place it on the gravesite. If the burial is in any other cemetery, the headstone or marker must be ordered from VA by completing VA Form 40-1330, *Application for Standard Government Headstone or Marker for Installation in a Private or State Veterans' Cemetery*, and sending it to:

Memorial Programs Service (403)  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20420.

(See the sample application on page 9-9.)

The headstone or marker will be shipped at Government expense; however, VA will not pay the cost of placing it. There is no time limit for ordering a headstone or marker. For veterans who die after December 27, 2001 and who are buried in a private cemetery, VA will furnish an appropriate grave marker even if the grave is already marked with a non-government marker.

VA will provide an American flag to cover the casket of a veteran or eligible Reservist (only). This may be requested by the funeral director or by the next of kin or next friend of the deceased. VA Form 21-2008, *Application for United States Flag for Burial Purposes*, may be submitted to a VA Regional Office, to the National Cemetery office, or to designated Post Offices. (See the sample application on page 9-8.)

A Presidential Memorial Certificate, signed by the President and stating the country's gratitude for the veteran's service, may be issued to the families or other loved ones of any honorably discharged deceased veteran. This may be obtained by applying to any VA Regional Office or by mailing a request, together with proof of the veteran's honorable discharge from service and a copy of the veteran's death certificate, to:


Presidential Memorial Certificates (41A1C),  
Department of Veterans Affairs,  
5109 Russell Road,  
Quantico, VA 22143-3903.

There is no longer a specific form required to apply for the Presidential Memorial Certificate, but the former VA Form 23-8055, *Application for Presidential Memorial Certificate*, may continue to be used. Alternatively, the PMC may be requested by telephone [(202) 565-4259 or (202) 501-2004], or by e-mail: [pmc@mail.va.gov](mailto:pmc@mail.va.gov). The request should clearly show the address the certificate should be mailed to. There is no time limit for requesting a Presidential Memorial Certificate.

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SAMPLE COPY

OMB A proved No. 2900-0003  
Respondent Burden: 20 minutes

 <b>Department of Veterans Affairs</b>				(DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE) (VA DATE STAMP)	
<b>APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS</b> (Under 38 U.S.C. Chapter 23)					
IMPORTANT - Read instructions carefully before completing form. YOUR COMPLIANCE WITH ALL INSTRUCTIONS WILL AVOID DELAY. Type or print all information.					
1. FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST NAME OF DECEASED VETERAN Lewis M. Johnson					
2. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OF VETERAN 237-72-9999			3. VA FILE NUMBER 23 985 947-00		
4. FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST NAME OF CLAIMANT Terzich & Wilson Funeral Home			5. TELEPHONE NUMBER(S) (include Area Code) A. DAYTIME (209) 555-1212 B. EVENING (209) 555-1212		
6. MAILING ADDRESS OF CLAIMANT (Number and street or rural route, city or P.O., State and ZIP Code) 225 E. Mayberry Ave. Angels Camp, CA 95111					
<b>PART I - INFORMATION REGARDING VETERAN</b>					
7A. DATE OF BIRTH 07/22/1947		7B. PLACE OF BIRTH San Andreas, CA			
8A. DATE OF DEATH 07/04/2004		8B. PLACE OF DEATH Angels Camp, CA		8C. DATE OF BURIAL 07/12/2004	
<b>SERVICE INFORMATION</b> (The following information should be furnished for the periods of the VETERAN'S ACTIVE SERVICE)					
9A. ENTERED SERVICE DATE PLACE		9B. SERVICE NUMBER	9C. SEPARATED FROM SERVICE DATE PLACE		9D. GRADE RANK OR RATING, ORGANIZATION AND BRANCH OF SERVICE
04/28/1967 Oakland, CA		53 525 609	12/09/1969 Fort Ord, CA		E-4 US ARMY
10. IF VETERAN SERVED UNDER NAME OTHER THAN THAT SHOWN IN ITEM 1, GIVE FULL NAME AND SERVICE RENDERED UNDER THAT NAME N/A				11. ARE YOU CLAIMING THAT THE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS DUE TO SERVICE? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
<b>PART 11 - CLAIM FOR BURIAL BENEFITS AND/OR INTERMENT ALLOWANCE IF PAID BY CLAIMANT</b>					
NOTE - If claiming Plot Allowance Only, do not complete Part 11, but complete Parts III and IV on reverse.					
12. PLACE OF BURIAL OR LOCATION OF CREMAINS MT. SHADOW CEMETERY SONORA, CA		13. WAS BURIAL (WITHOUT CHARGE FOR PLOT OR INTERMENT) IN A STATE OWNED CEMETERY OR SECTION THEREOF USED SOLELY FOR PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR BURIAL IN A NATIONAL CEMETERY? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO (If "No," complete Items 15 and 16)		14. WAS BURIAL IN A NATIONAL CEMETERY OR CEMETERY OWNED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO (If "No," complete Items 15 and 16)	
15. BURIAL PLOT, MAUSOLEUM VAULT, COLUMBARIUM NICHE, ETC. COST IS: (CHECK ONE) <input type="checkbox"/> PAID BY ANOTHER PERSON(S) <input type="checkbox"/> PAID BY CLAIMANT FOR BURIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DUE FUNERAL DIRECTOR <input type="checkbox"/> NONE <input type="checkbox"/> DUE CEMETERY OWNER		16. IF PLOT/INTERMENT EXPENSES ARE UNPAID, WHO WILL FILE CLAIM FOR EXPENSES? (Name and Address) TERZICH & WILSON FUNERAL HOME 225 E. MAYBERRY AVE. ANGELS CAMP, CA 95111			
17. TOTAL EXPENSE OF BURIAL FUNERAL, TRANSPORTATION, AND IF CLAIMED, BURIAL PLOT \$ 7,000.00		18. AMOUNT PAID \$ NONE		19. WHOSE FUNDS WERE USED? N/A	
20A. HAS PERSON WHOSE FUNDS WERE USED BEEN REIMBURSED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO (If "Yes," complete Items 20B and 20C)		20B. AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENT \$ N/A		20C. SOURCE OF REIMBURSEMENT N/A	
21A. HAS ANY AMOUNT BEEN OR WILL ANY AMOUNT BE ALLOWED ON EXPENSES BY LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL AGENCY? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO (If "Yes," complete Items 21B and 21C)		21B. AMOUNT \$ 255.00		21C. SOURCE(S) SOCIAL SECURITY	
22. WAS THE VETERAN A MEMBER OF A BURIAL ASSOCIATION OR COVERED BY BURIAL INSURANCE? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO (before answering, read and comply with Instruction 8)					

VA FORM  
JUN 2002 **21-530**

EXISTING STOCK OF VA FORM 21-530, SEP 1995,  
WILL BE USED.



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PART III - CLAIM FOR PLOT COST ALLOWANCE		
IMPORTANT - Complete only if burial was NOT in a national cemetery or cemetery owned by the Federal Government.		
23. WAS BURIAL (WITHOUT CHARGE FOR PLOT OR INTERMENT) IN A STATE OWNED CEMETERY OR SECTION THEREOF USED SOLELY FOR PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR BURIAL IN A NATIONAL CEMETERY?  <div style="text-align: center;">NO</div>	24. PLACE OF BURIAL OR LOCATION OF CREMAINS  <div style="text-align: center;">MT. SHADOW CEMETERY SONORA, CA</div>	
25A. COST OF BURIAL PLOT (Individual Grave Site, Mausoleum Vault, or Columbarium Niche)  \$ 450.00	25B. DATE OF PURCHASE  07/04/2004	25C. DATE OF PAYMENT
26A. HAVE BILLS BEEN PAID IN FULL?  <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO (If "No," complete Items 26B and 27)	26B. AMOUNT PAID  \$	27. WHOSE FUNDS WERE USED?
28A. HAS PERSON WHOSE FUNDS WERE USED BEEN REIMBURSED?  <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO (If "Yes," complete Items 28B and 28C)	28B. AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENT  \$	28C. SOURCE OF REIMBURSEMENT
29A. HAS ANY AMOUNT BEEN OR WILL ANY AMOUNT BE ALLOWED ON EXPENSES BY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY?  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO (If "Yes," complete Items 29B and 29C)	29B. AMOUNT  \$ 255.00	29C. SOURCE  SOCIAL SECURITY
PART IV - CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE		
I CERTIFY THAT the foregoing statements made in connection with this application on account of the named veteran are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.		
30A. SIGNATURE OF CLAIMANT (If signed by mark, complete Items 36A thru 37B) (If signing for firm, corporation, or State agency, complete Items 30B thru 31)  	30B. OFFICIAL POSITION OF PERSON SIGNING ON BEHALF OF FIRM, CORPORATION OR STATE AGENCY  TERZICH & WILSON FUNERAL DIRECTOR	
31. FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE FIRM, CORPORATION, OR STATE AGENCY FILING AS CLAIMANT  <div style="text-align: center;">225 E. MAYBERRY AVE. ANGELS CAMP, CA 95111</div>		
NOTE - Where the claimant is a firm or other unpaid creditor, Items 32A thru 35 MUST be completed by the individual who authorized services.		
I CERTIFY THAT the foregoing statements made by the claimant are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.		
32A. SIGNATURE OF PERSON WHO AUTHORIZED SERVICES (If signed by mark, complete Items 36A thru 37B)  	32B. NAME OF PERSON AUTHORIZING SERVICES (Type or Print)  BEVERLY S. JOHNSON	
33. ADDRESS (Number and street or rural route, city or P.O., State and ZIP Code)  <div style="text-align: center;">1190 DUCHESS DR. ANGELS CAMP, CA 95111</div>		
34. DATE  01-07-05	35. RELATIONSHIP TO VETERAN  SURVIVING SPOUSE	
WITNESS TO SIGNATURE IF MADE BY "X" MARK		
NOTE - Signature made by mark must be witnessed by two persons to whom the person making the statement is personally known, and the signatures and addresses of such witnesses must be shown below.		
36A. SIGNATURE OF WITNESS	36B. ADDRESS OF WITNESS	
37A. SIGNATURE OF WITNESS	37B. ADDRESS OF WITNESS	
PENALTY - The law provides severe penalties which include fine or imprisonment, or both, for the willful submission of any statement or evidence of a material fact knowing it to be false.		
<div style="text-align: center;">DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HEADSTONES AND MARKERS</div> <p>The Department of Veterans Affairs will furnish, upon request, a Government headstone or marker at the expense of the United States for the unmarked graves of certain individuals eligible for burial in a national cemetery, but not buried there. These individuals include any veteran with an other than dishonorable discharge who dies after service or any serviceman or servicewoman who dies on active duty. Certain other individuals may also be eligible for the headstone or marker. Headstones or markers for all individuals in a national or post cemetery are furnished automatically without request from the family.</p> <p>For additional information and an application, contact the nearest VA office.</p>		

# Burial Benefits

SAMPLE COPY

OMB Control No. 2900-0013  
Respondent Burden: 15 Minutes

 <b>Department of Veterans Affairs</b>		<b>APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES FLAG FOR BURIAL PURPOSES</b>	
<p><small>Privacy Act Notice: The VA will not disclose information collected on this form to any source other than what has been authorized under the Privacy Act of 1974 or Title 5 Code of Federal Regulations 1.526 for routine uses (i.e. to determine eligibility for issuance of a burial flag) as identified in the VA system of records, 58VA21/22. Compensation, Pension, Education and Rehabilitation Records - VA, and published in the Federal Register. Your obligation to respond is required to obtain or retain benefits. Giving us your SSN account information is voluntary. Refusal to provide your SSN by itself will not result in the denial of benefits. The VA will not deny an individual benefits for refusing to provide his or her SSN unless the disclosure of the SSN is required by a Federal Statute of law in effect prior to January 1, 1975, and still in effect.</small></p> <p><small>Important Notice About Information Collection: We need this information to gather the necessary information to determine eligibility for issuance of a burial flag to a family member or friend of a veteran (38 U.S.C. 2301 and 38 CFR 1.10). Title 38, United States Code, allows us to ask for this information. We estimate that you will need an average of 15 minutes to review the instructions, find the information, and complete this form. VA cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless a valid OMB control number is displayed. You are not required to respond to a collection of information if this number is not displayed. Valid OMB control numbers can be located on the OMB Internet Page at <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/library/omb/OMBINVC.html#VA">www.whitehouse.gov/library/omb/OMBINVC.html#VA</a>. If desired you can call 1-800-827-1000 to get information on where to send comments or suggestions about this form.</small></p>			
<b>IMPORTANT - Postmaster or other issuing official: Submit this form to the nearest VA Regional Office. Be sure to complete the stub at the bottom.</b>			
1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME-MIDDLE NAME OF DECEASED VETERAN (Print or type)		2. OTHER NAME(S) USED BY THE VETERAN	
DEAD, John K.		NONE	
3. BRANCH OF SERVICE (Check box)		4. VETERAN'S SERVICE (Check box)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARMY <input type="checkbox"/> NAVY <input type="checkbox"/> AIR FORCE <input type="checkbox"/> MARINE CORPS <input type="checkbox"/> COAST GUARD <input type="checkbox"/> SELECTED RESERVED <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Specify)		<input type="checkbox"/> MEXICAN BORDER PERIOD <input type="checkbox"/> WWI <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WWII <input type="checkbox"/> KOREAN WAR <input type="checkbox"/> AFTER 1-31-55 <input type="checkbox"/> VIETNAM WAR <input type="checkbox"/> GULF WAR <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Specify)	
5. CONDITION UNDER WHICH VETERAN WAS RELEASED FROM MILITARY SERVICE (Check box) (See qualifying Military Service Information on reverse)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. VETERAN OF A WAR, MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE, OR OF SERVICE AFTER 1-31-55, DISCHARGED OR RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY UNDER CONDITIONS OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE <input type="checkbox"/> B. DISCHARGED FROM OR RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY IN U.S. ARMED FORCES UNDER CONDITIONS OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE, AFTER SERVING AT LEAST ONE ENLISTMENT, OR DISCHARGED FOR DISABILITY INCURRED IN LINE OF DUTY <input type="checkbox"/> C. BY DEATH IN ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE AFTER MAY 27, 1941 IF THE DECEASED WAS INTERRED OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES OR THE REMAINS WERE NOT RECOVERED OR WHEN A FLAG WAS NOT FURNISHED BY THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT IN TIME FOR THE BURIAL (Explain in Item 18, Remarks) <input type="checkbox"/> D. SELECTED RESERVE SERVICE (As qualified on reverse) <input type="checkbox"/> E. PHILIPPINE MILITARY SERVICE (As qualified on reverse)			
6. NAME OF PERSON ENTITLED TO RECEIVE FLAG		7. ADDRESS OF PERSON ENTITLED TO RECEIVE FLAG	
Sally N. Dead		112 EAST BLVD. Angels Camp, CA 95111	
8. RELATIONSHIP TO VETERAN (See Relationship to Veteran, and Disposition of Flag on reverse)			
SURVIVING SPOUSE			
PERSONAL DATA OF DECEASED (Complete as much as possible)			
9. VA FILE NUMBER		10. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	
23 156 189-00		239-41-7650	
11. MILITARY SERVICE/SERIAL NUMBER		53 171 028	
12. DATE ENTERED ACTIVE DUTY (or Selected Reserve)		13. DATE RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY (or Selected Reserve)	
10/01/1942		10/30/1945	
14. DATE OF BIRTH		15. DATE OF DEATH	
01/20/1920		09/01/2004	
16. DATE OF BURIAL		17. PLACE OF BURIAL (Name of cemetery, city town, and State)	
09/12-2004		Murphys City Cemetery, Murphys, CA	
18. REMARKS			
<p>I CERTIFY that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information furnished above are correct and true, the deceased veteran is eligible, in accordance with instructions on the reverse for issue of a United States flag for burial purposes, and such flag has not previously been applied for or furnished.</p>			
19. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (Sign in INK)		20. ADDRESS OF APPLICANT (Number and street (or P.O. box), city, State and ZIP Code)	
		112 EAST BLVD. Angels Camp, CA 95111	
21. RELATIONSHIP TO VETERAN		22. DATE SIGNED	
Surviving Spouse		01-07-05	
<p><b>PENALTY</b> The law provides that whoever makes any statement of a material fact knowing it to be false shall be punished by a fine, imprisonment, or both.</p>			
<b>ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF FLAG FROM U.S. POST OFFICE OR OTHER ISSUE POINT</b>			
<p>I CERTIFY that the flag requested by the applicant will be used to drape the casket of the deceased veteran in whose honor it is issued by the Department of Veterans Affairs; and that the Relationship to Veteran, and Disposition of Flag instructions on the reverse side will be complied with.</p>			
SIGNATURE OF PERSON RECEIVING FLAG (Sign in INK)		DATE FLAG RECEIVED	
NAME AND ADDRESS OF POST OFFICE OR OTHER FLAG ISSUE POINT		FOR VA USE	
		DATE NOTIFICATION FORWARDED TO SUPPLY	
		INITIALS OF RESPONSIBLE VA EMPLOYEE	

VA FORM 21-2008, MAY 2003

SUPERSEDES VA FORM 2008, SEP 1999, WHICH WILL NOT BE USED.

**This stub is to be completed by the POSTMASTER or other issuing official. Upon receipt, the VA Regional Office will detach and forward it to the appropriate Supply Officer.**

NOTIFICATION OF ISSUANCE OF FLAG		
DATE FLAG ISSUED	SIGNATURE OF POSTMASTER OR OTHER ISSUING OFFICIAL	ADDRESS OF POST OFFICE OR OTHER FLAG ISSUE POINT
FOR VA USE	DATE OF REPLACEMENT	

VA FORM 21-2008  
MAY 2003


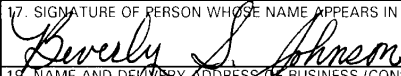
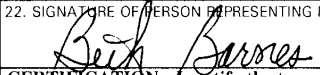
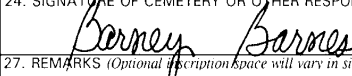
SUPERSEDES VA FORM 21-2008, SEP 1999,  
WHICH WILL NOT BE USED.

(SEE REVERSE)



# Burial Benefits

Form, approved, OMB No. 2900-0222  
Respondent Burden: 15 minutes

 <b>Department of Veterans Affairs</b>		<b>IMPORTANT:</b> Please read the General Information Sheet before completing this form. Type or print clearly all information except for signatures. Illegible printing could result in an incorrect headstone or marker or delivery. <i>Blocks outlined in bold are optional inscription items. Unless indicated otherwise all other blocks must be completed.</i> <b>MILITARY DISCHARGE DOCUMENTS OR RELATED SERVICE INFORMATION IS REQUIRED.</b>																													
<b>1. TYPE OF REQUEST</b> <input type="checkbox"/> INITIAL (First time) REQUEST <input type="checkbox"/> SECOND REQUEST <input type="checkbox"/> CORRECTED APPLICATION/REPLACEMENT																															
<b>2. NAME OF DECEASED TO BE INSCRIBED ON HEADSTONE OR MARKER (NO NICKNAMES OR TITLES PERMITTED)</b> FIRST (Or Initial) MIDDLE (Or Initial) LAST SUFFIX LEWIS M JOHNSON				<b>3. CHECK BOX BELOW IF REMAINS ARE NOT BURIED AND EXPLAIN IN BLOCK 27 (e.g., lost at sea, remains scattered, etc.)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> REMAINS NOT BURIED																											
<b>VETERAN'S SERVICE AND IDENTIFYING INFORMATION (Use numbers only, e.g., 05-15-1941)</b>																															
<b>4. VETERAN'S SOCIAL SECURITY NO. OR SERVICE NO. (Failure to complete will delay processing.)</b> 237-72-9999		<b>PERIODS OF ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY (For additional space use Block 27)</b> <table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="3">6A. DATE(S) ENTERED</th> <th colspan="3">6B. DATE(S) SEPARATED</th> </tr> <tr> <th>MONTH</th> <th>DAY</th> <th>YEAR</th> <th>MONTH</th> <th>DAY</th> <th>YEAR</th> </tr> <tr> <td>APRIL</td> <td>28</td> <td>1967</td> <td>DEC</td> <td>09</td> <td>1969</td> </tr> </table>				6A. DATE(S) ENTERED			6B. DATE(S) SEPARATED			MONTH	DAY	YEAR	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	APRIL	28	1967	DEC	09	1969								
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<b>7. HIGHEST RANK ATTAINED (No pay grades)</b> SGT		<b>8. BRANCH OF SERVICE (Check box(es) - must be consistent with rank (Box 7))</b> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>ARMY</td> <td>NAVY</td> <td>MARINE CORPS</td> <td>COAST GUARD</td> <td>AIR FORCE</td> <td>ARMY AIR FORCES</td> <td>MERCHANT MARINE</td> <td>OTHER (Specify)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AR</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> NA</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> MC</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> CG</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> AF</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> AA</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> MM</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>				ARMY	NAVY	MARINE CORPS	COAST GUARD	AIR FORCE	ARMY AIR FORCES	MERCHANT MARINE	OTHER (Specify)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AR	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> MC	<input type="checkbox"/> CG	<input type="checkbox"/> AF	<input type="checkbox"/> AA	<input type="checkbox"/> MM	<input type="checkbox"/>										
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<b>13A. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS (No., street, city, State, and ZIP Code) OF PERSON TO CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b> Beverly S. Johnson 1190 Duchess Dr. Angels Camp, CA 95111		<b>13B. DAYTIME PHONE NO. OF PERSON TO CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b> (209) 555-1234		<b>16. ARE YOU:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEXT OF KIN <input type="checkbox"/> FUNERAL DIRECTOR <input type="checkbox"/> VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER <input type="checkbox"/> CEMETERY OFFICIAL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Specify)																											
<b>14. E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional)</b> NONE		<b>15. FAX NO. (Optional)</b> NONE																													
<b>CERTIFICATION: I certify the headstone or marker will be installed in the cemetery listed in block 21 at no expense to the Government and all statements made are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.</b>																															
<b>17. SIGNATURE OF PERSON WHOSE NAME APPEARS IN BLOCK 13A</b> 		<b>18. DATE</b> 1-6-05																													
<b>19. NAME AND ADDRESS OF BUSINESS (CONSIGNEE) THAT WILL ACCEPT PREPAID DELIVERY (No., Street, City, State and ZIP Code); P.O. BOX IS NOT ACCEPTABLE</b> Veterans Service Office 20100 Cedar Rd., N., Suite A Sonora, CA 95370		<b>20. DAYTIME PHONE NO. (Include Area Code)</b> (209) 533-6880		<b>21. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CEMETERY WHERE GRAVE IS LOCATED (No., Street, City, State and ZIP Code)</b> Mt. Shadow Cemetery Sonora, CA																											
<b>CERTIFICATION: I agree to accept prepaid delivery of the headstone or marker.</b>																															
<b>22. SIGNATURE OF PERSON REPRESENTING BUSINESS (CONSIGNEE) NAMED IN BLOCK 19</b> 		<b>23. DATE</b> 1-6-05																													
<b>CERTIFICATION: I certify the type of headstone or marker checked in block 11 is permitted in the cemetery named in block 21.</b>																															
<b>24. SIGNATURE OF CEMETERY OR OTHER RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL</b> 		<b>25. DAYTIME TELEPHONE NO. (Include Area Code)</b> (209) 533-6880		<b>26. DATE</b> 1-6-05																											
<b>27. REMARKS (Optional - inscription space will vary in size according to the type of marker)</b> FAMILY REQUESTS ADDITIONAL INSCRIPTION OF: BELOVED HUSBAND AND GRANDFATHER		<b>28. GRAVE IS:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> CURRENTLY MARKED (with privately purchased marker) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT MARKED																													
<b>STATE VETERANS' CEMETERY AND GRAVE LOCATION (Cemetery Use Only)</b>																															
<b>29. ID CODE</b>		<b>30. SECTION</b>		<b>31. GRAVE NO.</b>																											

VA FORM  
JAN 2003 (RS)

40-1330

APPLICATION FOR STANDARD GOVERNMENT HEADSTONE OR MARKER

## **Burial Benefits**

— Notes —

## **Burial Benefits**

— Notes —

## **Burial Benefits**

— Notes —

## **Burial Benefits**

### **Study Questions:**

Using the assigned references and reading materials, answer the following questions:

1. When a death is service-connected, the full amount of the service-connected burial allowance is always payable regardless of the actual cost of the funeral, plot, and transportation to the place of burial.  
(T/F)
2. If a veteran dies in a VA hospital from nonservice-connected causes and is buried in a National Cemetery, what, if any, transportation costs are payable?
  - a. Transportation from the place of death to the funeral home, only.
  - b. Transportation from the funeral home to the National Cemetery, only.
  - c. Transportation from the place of death to the National Cemetery.
  - d. None of the above.
3. Assuming other requirements are met, may a veteran whose body is unclaimed be interred in a National Cemetery? (Y/N)
4. What is the time limit for claiming the allowance for transporting a veteran's body from the place of death to the place of interment?
  - a. 60 days
  - b. One year
  - c. Two years
  - d. There is no time limit for claiming transportation costs.
5. May the plot allowance be authorized if the veteran is buried in a State veteran's cemetery? (Y/N)
6. The burial allowance must always be paid to the funeral director, even if all of the costs of the funeral and burial have been paid in full. (T/F)
7. If a veteran's family wishes a headstone or marker different from the type supplied by VA, will VA reimburse the cost of the headstone or marker? (Y/N)

## **Burial Benefits**

- 8.** If a U.S. flag is used to cover the casket of a veteran, what is done with the flag upon burial of the casket?
  - a.** It is given to the veteran's next of kin or next friend.
  - b.** It is returned to the funeral director for use for the next funeral of a veteran.
  - c.** It is buried with the casket.
  - d.** It is returned to the Government facility which originally furnished it.
  
- 9.** If a veteran's dependent, who is not a veteran but who is covered under CHAMPVA, is admitted to a VA medical facility and dies there, are burial benefits payable?
  - a.** The basic nonservice-connected burial and plot allowance is payable.
  - b.** Only the transportation allowance from the place of death to the funeral home is payable.
  - c.** The basic nonservice-connected burial allowance (but not the plot allowance) plus the allowance for transportation from the place of death to the place of burial is payable.
  - d.** No—burial benefits are only for veterans.
  
- 10.** What is the time limit for claiming a burial allowance?
  - a.** For a service-connected death, there is no time limit for claiming burial allowance.
  - b.** For a nonservice-connected death, the time limit for claiming burial allowance is two years after the date of the veteran's final permanent burial.
  - c.** If the character of the veteran's discharge was a bar to VA benefits at the time of death from nonservice-connected causes, the time limit for claiming burial allowance is two years after the posthumous correction of the character of discharge.
  - d.** All of the above.